

## BERMUDA GRASS.

### The Jersey Cow—Her Milk—and the Profits on All.

One of the leading spirits in the dairy industry of Georgia, which has developed so rapidly during the past few years is Mrs. B. W. Hunt, of Eatonton.

Several years ago she wrote an article which was widely copied at the time, but it has not been in print for some time. The article is so full of practical and valuable information about the dairy industry in its relation to Georgia, that the blue grass of Georgia, that there is considerable demand for its publication, and the Atlanta Journal reproduces it.

The question has been asked me what advance dairying has made in the South since the war, and I cannot answer the question better than by giving some facts and figures gained in a personal experience.

The country I reside in is geographically the center of the "blue belt" (so called because the negroes far outnumber the whites), devoted exclusively to cotton culture, extending from Virginia to Texas. The soil originally fertile, has been much exhausted by the ruinous system of farming known as "clean culture."

So deadly and persistent a fight have been waged for years against the two enemies of the cotton plant, grass and shade, that our once rich plantations have long been in danger of being transformed into arid deserts.

Years ago my husband purchased North and brought here a small herd of Jerseys, and we began selling the butter and increase from the herd, under the difficulties of acclimating the animals and controlling the thermometer in this semi-tropical region.

From our little experiment, however, such results have followed that most impress the most confirmed and hardened disbeliever in that "specialized" animal, the butter cow! Let it be borne in mind that at the time we brought our Jerseys to the county, the small amount of butter made here was principally consumed on the farms where the animals were raised, only a insignificant amount finding its way to the market. The native Southern cow was a wretched creature poorly fed, and cared for, and managed and milked by ignorant negroes, who starved and beat her without mercy, her unhappily offspring also coming in for its share of abuse. No calf was raised on the bucket or pail. The negro allowed it to suck to start the flow of milk, then it from its mother was taken, and this sucking and beating continued during the whole process of milking varied by occasional whacks on the cow when she did not "give down her milk."

This mode of treatment, coupled with insufficient food and exposure to inclement weather, did not produce a breeding of cows calculated to make dairy a safe or profitable business. The result was, taking my section as typical, the South drew large butter supplies from the North, it being generally conceded that this commodity must be always imported here, as neither grass for the making nor ice for the saving were indigenous to the realm of King Cotton.

A wonderful revolution, however, has taken place in 10 years, in ideas and methods of agricultural production; and while it is due in part to the general breaking up throughout the South of princely plantations into small farms, and the turning of attention to diversified industry, the introduction here of the Jersey cow has been the greatest factor in producing the result. Once acclimated she has thrived on the tropical grasses brought from the long summer of this latitude as though to the manor born, and by that subtle alchemy known only to her kind, she has transmuted the gold of Southern sunshine through her butter into the farmer's pocketbook.

My county, that so short a time ago imported its butter, now manufactures all its home supplies, and exports largely!

I quote from the books of the express company here. From April 1, 1886, to March 31, 1887, exported 33,000 pounds; from October 1, 1887, to September 30, 1888, exported 50,000 pounds. An increase of 50 per cent. in one year, and the demand has fully kept up with the increased supply! I reiterate the statement that the introduction of that little butter machine, the Jersey cow, has accomplished these results a few years under untold disadvantages.

Every dairy in the county that is making money has now its herd of Jerseys, pure or graded, and the breed once tried has never been abandoned for any other. The short horn, Devon, Ayrshire and Brahman have all been successively, if not successfully employed, but it was left for the little Jersey to put dairying on a paying basis in the South.

Remembering that our county ships more butter than any other in the State, the facts pay eloquent tribute to the profitability of this breed. With the introduction of these valuable butter cows has come naturally an appreciation of fine pastures, and of all grasses that are indigenous to the climate, or are capable of cultivation here; and with grass and shade, moisture, rest and fertility to the worn out cotton fields. The hitherto worthless Bermuda lands are proving a source of greater revenue to the planter than all his proud acres of "fleece staple," and plantations run over with this pest(?) that were once offered, on that account, lower than others, are now held at higher prices.

And strange it is to see a gray-haired Southern planter coaxing the once despised Bermuda grass to live, thus mutely and touchingly acknowledging his life-long error in fighting his best friend—now the last hope of his old age.

dacious foreign invader. Then began a war of extermination! Inch by inch, year by year, hunted by fire and sword, the Bermuda grass retreated to its stronghold, the inaccessible swamps and wild Southern jungles, and there it bided its time. But there came a day when the realm of the tyrant was invaded by a queen.

"Oh, every inch a queen was she, And she came from an isle that is over the And she came to set the country free From a despot's sway, King Cotton."

She quickly found the long persecuted, hidden one, and called: Come forth, and bless this land. Fear not, for lo! I am thy friend and ally for evermore.

Then with a mad scamper, the untamed little runaway grass went over the valleys and hills of the South, but never far from his friend and preserver. Close, close to her he creeps for protection. When you see the lifted head of the Jersey Queen, from Texas plains to Georgia "canebrake," look down at her feet and there you will find her faithful follower—Bermuda grass.

What I have written is not a poetical fable. It is a true story and more. It is an epitome of history, a brief compendium of all the marvelous changes and transformations that have silently, like the unseen forces of nature, been at work in the South for 20 years. And I wish the gift were mine to state the wondrous facts with such power that the most careless reader of these lines could not forget, nor slightly pass them over.

One might almost say that from a revolution that shook a continent with its throes, all the stupendous results evolved in the cotton States, might be summed up in two comprehensive words—Bermuda grass. For to the thoughtful student of men and events, they embody the belief that "old things have passed away" with all the pathos and overwhelming change these words imply. They represent the new South, with its new life, new aspirations, new conditions and destiny, and they contain the "sum and substance of all things hoped for," if yet unseen in the Southern states, diversified industries and economical, intelligent agriculture. And may a Southern woman, whose only interests and hopes are in her fertile land make in conclusion a prophecy?

The Northern traveler to my section of the South a year hence will see not the God-forsaken, tree-girdled wastes, but waving fields of grain, and green pastures with fine cattle and well-fitted barns, and every sign of a prosperous farming people. The whole beautiful region that stretches at the foot of the Alleghenies through the Carolinas, Georgia and Alabama, will vibrate with the famous "blue grass lands" of Kentucky in rich meadows, choice dairy products and blooded stock. Here are no drifting snows nor icy storms, no blizzard frozen pastures. That nature has marked this garden spot with the sign and seal of her approval as the true dairy region of America, who can doubt? Over it she has arched skies as sunny, and fanned it with air as soft, as those of the island of Jersey; and given it advantage over all the other sections, not only in never ending summers, but in perpetually flowing pure waters and rich responsive soil that only needs appreciative care and skilled labor to reward the husbandman with plentiful harvest.

With the vivid interests just awakened in dairying, the abandonment of exclusive cotton culture, the emigration here of Northern people who will teach us their habits of industry, thrift and economy, there is a future at last dawning for those of us who live in the "black belt of the South."

Mrs. B. W. Hunt.

## Summer Arrivals

...AT...

## ..Haddons..

White and Printed Organdies.

White and Colored Piques.

White and Black Mulls.

A new and beautiful line of EMBROIDERIES just received.

See our CRASH and DUCKS for Summer Skirts. A new lot just in.

R. M. HADDON & CO.

Abbeville Hardware Co.

We wish to call your attention to

## SOME SEASONABLE GOODS.

Get a "GUNNERY," the best mace; all hard wood, highly ornamental, absolutely clean, free circulation of air, economical in ice, long lived.

Freezers. We have the "Wonder" in two and three quart sizes. The newest and best—the "Peerless Iceland"—in four and six quarts.

Water Coolers. All sizes and colors.

Fly Fans. We have the improved keyless, nickel plated, complete in itself. Every fan guaranteed.

Ice Shavers. Ice picks. Ice chippers.

Toilet Sets. We can give you a three piece set, all colors, at 89c. This is a very close price; order now.

Base Ball Goods. A large stock of Balls, Bats, Masks, Mitts, &c., on hand. We have marked the prices very close. Special prices to clubs in lots.

Osborne, Mowers and Rakes, Chattanooga, Syracuse and Avery Plows, Grain Cradles, Scythes, Swoops, Hoes, &c.

Remember we make Screen Doors and Windows to order.

## Time and Tide

## Wait For No Man!

SOME CLOCKS AND WATCHES ARE MADE TO SELL—THEIR

Prices Are Very Low.

OTHER CLOCKS AND WATCHES ARE MADE TO KEEP TIME—

They Cost More.

If accuracy is your object, buy the "LATER," the former will answer your purpose, and you save a little money. The same is true with

Repairing.

A CHEAP job on a good watch means depreciating its money value. A watch is not valued by time, but by its banding. If you want good repairing at a moderate price, bring it to

R. C. Bernau,

The Jeweler.

Charleston and Western Carolina R. R.

Augusta and Asheville Short Line.

In effect Jan. 8, 1890.

Ar Greenwood..... 9 40 am 1 40 pm

Ar Augusta..... 12 15 pm 6 10 pm

Ar Laurens..... 1 20 pm 7 00 am

Ar Greenville..... 1 40 pm 7 20 am

Ar Spartanburg..... 2 10 pm 8 00 am

Ar Greenville..... 2 30 pm 8 20 am

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Amos B. Morse's Locals. Wilson or Palmetto cotton planter—the best on earth. Try one.

A few fine Irish potatoes to plant or eat. The last lot for this season.

A barrel of fine cucumbers in brine just received. They are nice and cheap.

It is getting time to sow "German millet." Come and get your seed.

Nice English cured shoulders 9 cents a pound. You need one of them.

Good stock fresh canned goods, pickles, olives, &c. Amos B. Morse.

Right in the Swim on the Following Goods.

1yd white lawn at 6, 8, and 10 cent, very fine and rose.

Calicoes, chevrons, drills, satins, etc. Sheetings, bleechings, etc.

A bargain in towels at 5, 10, 15c. Some bargains in ladies and childrens underwear.

A nice line of 5c. shirting. Lots of straw hats cheap, and lots of notions buttons etc., low down.

Canned goods down to nothing, pork and beans 5c. can, 8lb cans 10c, okra and tomatoes 10c. can.

Leader and excelsior flour, the finest. Salt, soda, soap, baking powders, etc.

Kerosene oil, any way you want it. Come in and see. W. D. Barksdale.

C. P. Hammond's the place for garden hose, bath tubs, etc.

9th. Lion coffee for \$1. R. C. Wilson.

Try a glass of our delicious claret phosphate. Milford & DuPre.

There is no use to tell you anything about Milford & DuPre's drug store, but go and see.

Kodol, the great dyspepsia remedy, for sale by Milford & DuPre, Phone 107.

Bromo-quinine will cure a cold in one day. Sold by P. B. Speed.

Moth balls for sale by Speed.

See R. C. Wilson before buying your hay, corn, flour, &c.

A nice line of combs and hair brushes at Speed's.

A big bargain in castle soap at Speed's.

Catch your flies with tanglefoot. Plenty fresh and good at Speed's.

If you need a barrow for your crop, come and get one, \$1 each and the best investment you can make. Amos B. Morse.

A few flower jars left. Stock almost exhausted and then no more until next season. Amos B. Morse.

Try Wilson's seed meal for horses, cows, hogs, and poultry. A splendid medicine, tonic and invigorator, also Louse Killer, for vegetables, or animals, have cure and scratch cure. Try a sample package of any of above. Amos B. Morse.

Buy your kerosene from R. C. Wilson, special prices by the barrel.

Kill all the flies in your house with insect powder. For sale by Speed.

Velvet candy fresh at Speed's.

Close connections at Greenwood for all points on S. A. L. and C. & G. Railways, and at Spartanburg with Southern Railway.

For any information relative to tickets, rates, schedule, etc., address

W. J. CRAIG, Gen. Pass. Agent, Augusta, Ga.

On these hot afternoons nothing is so refreshing as a "Lolly Pop." Sold at Speed's drug store.

R. C. Wilson is headquarters for fresh country butter. He sells none but the best. Give him a trial.

Drink cherry phosphate—a specialty by Milford & DuPre.

On these hot afternoons nothing is so refreshing as a "Lolly Pop." Sold at Speed's drug store.

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